



The Trail Blazer

OFFICIAL ORGAN METROPOLITAN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION · OAKLAND, CALIF.



NOVEMBER - - 1948

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Editorial

ATTENTION, PLEASE

At the August meeting of the directors of the Metropolitan Horsemen's Association, our president, Ted Dreyer, appointed a committee which might be termed a "budget committee", or a "policy determining committee." Named to serve were Martin Murray and the following directors, Don Schwimley, Willis Pray, Ted Dreyer, Heber J. Brown and James A. Myers, chairman.

For the purpose of determining how much money was required to operate the association for the past year, and to ascertain just how much would be required to properly finance the expenses of operation for the coming year, Martin Murray had the books of the association audited.

The report showed one conclusive fact. This was that there is but one principal source of revenue, the sale of membership. While the Trail Blazer receives moneys from the sale of ads, the sum realized from this is sufficient only to keep the Trail Blazer self-supporting.

Trails, Major Aim

Old timers will recall the association was formed only for the purpose of building and maintaining trails for the horsemen to enjoy, nevertheless with the passing of the years and the change in times, it is necessarily taking on other activities which have become important to the welfare of the horsemen in general. Most important of these changes has come about through the heavy increase in population in the state, this impact having been felt particularly in the Bay Area.

With the increase in population there has arisen an increased demand for housing. Vacant land surrounding such a city as Oakland is limited, consequently the horsemen's frontier has been gradually pushed back. This condition means that it has become imperative for the horsemen to be well organized in order to maintain the proper public relations, not only with the public at large, but with the governing officials of the city and county, for to slight this important activity would only mean the impairment of security of the horse lovers in the matter of being able to keep their horses within a stone's throw of downtown Oakland.

Must Be Well Organized

It should be most clear to everyone that in order to accomplish our purpose we must have a well organized horsemen's association. Such an organization must be maintained on a sound basis so that it can stand ready to act for and in behalf of the interests of all horsemen. It can now be stated, without reservation, that the Metropolitan Horsemen's association, has been recognized by the city and county officials as the official horse organization through which all matters pertaining to horse activities that

(Continued on Page 18)

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Deadline — 5th of the month

All copy subject to editorial revision

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NEXT BOARD MEETING

Date: Thursday, November 4

Time: 8:00 P.M.

Don Marquis' office, 6283 College St.

CAN THIS ABUSE BE OVERCOME?

Certain areas of the hill district are now closed to riders — AND JUSTLY SO!

For many years, horsemen and horsewomen have been privileged to ride through several privately owned areas in the hill district. The owners spent large sums of their own money to build and maintain beautiful trails through these areas, and these same owners have given their continued support to all M.H.A. projects.

In return for these valued favors, some riders have so abused these privileges that the areas have been closed to all riders. Fences have been damaged so that cattle have wandered out of their pastures; street signs and surveyors' markers have been mutilated; horses have been galloped up pavements damaging the surfaces, endangering not only the lives of the riders but also the lives of persons in automobiles. Even redwood trees, planted for the beautification of the area, have been uprooted by these riding hoodlums.

It is the candid opinion of those that have discussed the matter that none of these offenders are members of the Metropolitan Horsemen's association but probably outside rent riders who do not live in this area and have no personal interest in the surroundings and have nothing to lose. Anyone loving horses enough to become affiliated with such an organization has a deep appreciation of the hills and the rights of others and are as careful of other people's property as they are of their own. Because of the damage inflicted by these few it is hard on everybody and obviously up to the rest of us to do something to bring about the necessary education of these riders.

When you stop to think how you would feel if these abuses were enacted on your property, you can readily appreciate the feeling of property owners who have been so treated. What makes the situation even more regrettable, is that some of these property owners have probably done more for the Metropolitan Horsemen's Association than anyone else, both in allowing the use of their property and in contributing their services and money to M.H.A. events.

This complete lack of appreciation is disgraceful. WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT PREVENTING SUCH OCCURRENCES IN THE FUTURE?

FIFTEEN MILES OF TRAILS CLEARED

Through the untiring and tactful efforts of A. B. Graham, Trails chairman, not only have fifteen miles of trails been cleared in 1948, but the hazardous route down Redwood Canyon, while not completed, has been improved to provide a reasonably safe route for horses.

Mr. Graham wishes to express his gratitude for the opportunity of "working with so many fine people — the directors and members of the M.H.A." His hope is that the work on the trails will continue to receive due attention in coming years. He suggests that a good slogan for the M.H.A. would be: **"MORE AND BETTER TRAILS"**. He feels that this could be accomplished by earmarking a definite percentage of funds from the annual M.H.A. budget for trail work.

Cooperation of the Oakland street department in clearing the shoulders of streets in certain hill district areas thus providing an area for riding off the pavement, aiding in fire prevention, and improving the appearance of the streets, is greatly appreciated, as is the work of the County in helping to provide the same protection along the Redwood Canyon route. The M.H.A. provided the clearing of trails down Redwood to Mountain, the trail across Dark Canyon, through Redwood Regional Park to the West Ridge, and through Sequoia to the Joaquin Miller District.

To Mr. Graham, the members extend their appreciation for his splendid work; to the Board of Supervisors, and the Regional Park Board, a hearty "Thank You" for the fine cooperation in making some of the improvements possible.

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JUNIORS

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Thomas F. Bisho
Pauline Sheeley
Ronnie Lewis
Barbara Heisler
Kathy Lou Nielsen
Donald Leslie

INTRODUCING NEW MEMBERS

Bernard Allard owns a nine-year-old quarterhorse gelding, which he keeps in Contra Costa county, at Jim Hoey's ranch. Associated with the law firm, Nichols, Richard and Allard, Mr. Allard also likes to hunt, fish and bowl.

Jack and Virginia Rees, who live out in Redwood Canyon, have their own horses. Jack's is an American saddlebred gelding, named Rusty, while Virginia has a six-year old buckskin quarterhorse gelding, Sheeba. Jack has no other hobbies but is a transportation broker in San Leandro, while Virginia stays at home with the horses.

Ed Butterfield owns a three-year-old gelding named "Sailor", which he keeps out on Lincoln Avenue. He rides out in the Canyon.

Sidney H. Davies is an old-time cow-puncher, who has won many trophies. He has a beautiful matched pair of sorrels, both geldings, which he keeps up in Clearlake Highlands, where he resides. He is only now breaking one of the teams. Besides being a rancher up in the Highlands, he is also an authority on horses in Lake county.

George Robinson owns a beautiful three-year-old sorrel gelding. Heber Brown's old polo pony, Trixie, is at Robinsons, in Clearlake Highlands. Mrs. Robinson rides Trix and George rides Rusty, while training him. The Robinsons, Kayes, and Browns, have enjoyed some lovely rides under the guidance of Sidney Davies.

OUR COVER

Making an auspicious appearance in many of the season's show was Idiot's Delight, owned by Deanne Burton, and ridden to many victories by the owner's sister, Norma Burton. Climax of his many achievements for the year were trophies in the Open Jumpers class and in the Hunters Open at the recent Blue Ribbon show at Santa Rosa.

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FRED E. ANDERSON NAMED REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

FRED E. ANDERSON, long identified with the Metropolitan Horsemen's association and one-time president of the organization was elected vice president of Region 5 at the recent convention at Santa Rosa. Unanimously endorsed by the M.H.A. prior to the convention, he was unopposed for the office.



FRED E.
ANDERSON

A horseman of note, Mr. Anderson rides with the Aahmes Shrine Rangers and was one of the organizers of the group. A member of the M.H.A. for the past eight years, he is chairman of the state trails of Alameda county and has worked long and tirelessly for the good of horsemen and their activities.

During the war he served as first lieutenant in the Civil Mounted Patrol of district 3 which called for night riding in the Hills.

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CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Members of the Metropolitan Horsemen's association were prominent among winners at the Blue Ribbon show and big parade at the California State Horsemen's association, held at Santa Rosa on October 14, 15, 16 and 17.

Among them were Mrs. Gerald Gray, on Golden Flight, in the palomino class, Golden Flight having captured a similar trophy at the 1947 show; Jimmie Black, on Rabbit, in the children's stock horse class; Don Nicholson, on Golden Jubilee, in the parade horse class; Norma Burton up on Idiot's Delight, owned by Deanne Burton, in the hunters open; Celia Gray, riding Brian Baru, in the children's mount, English, for 12 and under; Marie Joe Jepson, on Marjo, in the children's mount, 13 to 17, and Norma Burton, again on Idiot's Delight, in the Open jumpers.

Parade Awards

Parade awards went to Aahmes Shrine Rangers, for the best mounted men's group; to the Lari-ettes, for the best mounted women's groups; to Denny Morgan's family, in the family group; to Millie Sanko, for the best working western woman; to Ray Morgan, for the best working western boy under 17; to Celia Gray, for the best English mounted girl; to the Aahmes Rangers, for the best silver mounted group. (Second prize went to Contra Costa County Rangers, and fourth to Castro Valley Mounted group.)

Aahmes Rangers also captured first for the best mounted drill unit; Don Nicholson, first for the best horse and equipment for men; Janice Kenyon, on Radhar, second place in best horse and equipment division for women; with Ken Morgan taking second and Ray Morgan third for horse and equipment. Walleen Grondona won for best horse and equipment for juniors, and Jimmie Black took first for best children's west-to-be present due to an out-of-town business for 12 and under.

Junior championships went to Marjorie Preisser, of Roseville, and George Cardinet III, of Concord, both having the same number of points. Trophies, in the form of sil-

ver medals with the official SCHA horse and poppy insignia, were donated by Levi Strauss company.

New Officers

Ed Swerlein, of San Mateo, was elected president of the association at the general meeting on Sunday. Regional vice-presidents were named as (1) Ray Anderson; (2) Herb Kinmon; (3) James Phelps; (4) W. L. Lynn; (5) Fred Anderson; (6) Ed Baker; (7) Frank Vassels; (8) Ed Cullen; (9) Chet Foster; (10) Mrs. Brandel; (11) Joe Bordwell. Vice-president for the newly formed Region 12 will be elected at a later date.

Warren Richardson, outgoing president, was recipient of a silver mounted gavel and president's ring, and Mrs. Richardson was presented with an orchid.

Local Delegates

Delegates from M.H.A. to the state convention included Sidney V. Chown, Mary Gale, Mrs. Elsa Himmelman, A. W. Himmelman, Charles A. Logue, James A. Myers, Blanche Paul, Willis C. Pray, Mrs. Clarence Simons and Mrs. George Walling. Mr. Myers acted as convention chairman in the absence of Ted Dreyer, president of M.H.A., unable to attend.

It was announced that the 1949 convention will be held in Sacramento and the 1950 convention, in Palm Springs.

Earl Nanninga

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INTRODUCING NEW JUNIORS

Edward T. Evans, 8, a student at Montclair, rides at Miss Graham's stable. Edward hasn't his own horse yet but hopes to have one soon, and until he does he rides once a week. Keep it up, Edward, and good luck.

Shirley Rock is lucky in that she has three horses, two being Tennessee walkers, while the other is one-half Tennessee walker and Arabian. Shirley stables at the Piedmont and, while a student in Piedmont High, still finds time for regular rides in the canyon. Her other hobby, so she says, is swimming.

Dolly Wheeler owns her own horse, Frosty, a seven-year-old gelding. Dolly keeps him at the Wagon Wheel ranch and rides nearby. A student at Castlemont High, she is in the Low Ten.



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JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

Among the winners in the last few shows, is Sandra Logue, who captured first in the class for jumpers, placed fourth in the polo and pair class, at San Pablo October 2.

Also in the winner's circle is Jimmy Clask, Jr., who won the junior trail in western horsemanship at San Pablo and who took first in the junior stock in western horsemanship at San Pablo.

Two more who are placing well in the money are Barton and Harlene Heller.

One of our smallest juniors, who is in the winning class every time she shows is little Linda Landsborough.

Corrine Smith won second in pleasure horse class and second in parade at San Jose, and at San Pablo placed second in fine harness, fourth in parade horse, and fifth in English pleasure class.

Hats off to Pat Rukavina who has been doing a wonderful job in all of her show appearances.

Election of officers featured a recent meeting of the M.H.A. Juniors, with Patsy Nuttall, named president; Ronald Dunnaway, vice-president, and Corrine Smith, secretary-treasurer. Later Patsy resigned her office due to leaving the city and Ronnie and Corrine were chosen to carry on executive duties. Outgoing officers included Joey Cosca, Peggy Day and Pat Brandes.

Meetings will continue to be held once a month, with all members receiving notification of the time and place from the secretary. Plans are being made for a drill team, and Miss Graham has kindly consented to let the group practice in her ring. An emblem is being chosen for the Juniors, according to reports of Janey Anderson and George Hendrick.

Activity for the end of September was a hay ride, the crowd gathering in jeans and boots. All went well and the outing ended in a big feed.

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PINTO RANCH SOLD; NEW MANAGEMENT PLANS MANY CHANGES

Activities are buzzing around the Pinto ranch these days, and standard equipment seems to be a hammer or a paint brush. Recent announcement concerns the purchase of the ranch by Louis Alberts and Lew Winston from the former owners, Harold Cummins and Stan Cosca. The new partnership will function under the name, Pinto Ranch, Incorporated.

The renovation program has been underway for the past six weeks. Old barns have been razed and new box stalls constructed, new cement wash pits have been installed, and work is now being rushed on an indoor riding ring for night and winter activities.

Other features will include individual tack rooms for each boarder, a restaurant, a spacious clubroom and a new granary, the latter having been leased to Leonard Lansborough, grain salesman.

According to the new owners most of the ranch will be leased out to individuals, with Jim Heel as the new manager of the stable. Jim will be in active charge of the stalls and of the boarders. Ted Talstram will continue in charge of the rent string.

Adding much to the renovation program will be an over-all paint job. A special invitation is issued to all riders to drop in and get acquainted with the new management.

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Membership News

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE PROMISES GALA AFFAIR

It's time to make your plans for our biggest party of the year, the annual dinner dance and election of officers, to be held at the Moose City Club, 14th and Alice streets, on Friday evening, December 3rd.

Make up a table of your friends, whether members of M.H.A. or not, and plan for a gala evening. Cocktails will be served from 6 o'clock. A full course steak dinner will be served at 7, and dancing to Rod McCauley's orchestra will follow from 9 to 1. The dining room and adjoining bar on the second floor of what was formerly known as the Women's City Club, has been reserved exclusively for us.

Reservations Limited

To avoid disappointment, make your reservations early. The dining room has a limited seating capacity and as we have over 800 members, it will be necessary to accommodate those who make reservations first.

If you are an old member, you won't want to miss this opportunity to see all of your horsemen friends, and if you are a new member, this will be a swell occasion to increase your acquaintance. And with prices what they are, you couldn't beat this bargain of steak dinner and fine music for dancing at only \$3.85 a plate.

Committees Busy

Mrs. G. S. (Blanche) Paul has been appointed chairman for the evening, according to Art Palmer, activities chairman. Mrs. Clarence (Lucille) Simons is ticket chairman and has placed tickets with various clubs and stables for your convenience. See her announcement on this same page for details.

Mrs. Jack (Ruth) Green will head the decorations committee with Mrs. Martin Murray, Mrs. Art Palmer, Mrs. Archie Brown, Mrs. Roy Tarr, Mrs. Jim Myers and Mrs. Don Schwimley as her assistants.

We will be looking for you. Don't disappoint your friends. Reservations will close when the capacity of the room is reached, so get your tickets NOW.

Grand National Now In Session

As the Trail Blazer goes to press attention is focussed on the annual Grand National, held Oct. 29-Nov. 7 at the Cow Palace in San Francisco. Twelve divisions and 62 classes will compete for plate and cash awards totalling \$25,000. Heralded as the West's richest and best attended show, the 1948 affair is said to surpass other years and a record attendance is anticipated.

MRS. LUCILLE SIMONS HEADS TICKET COMMITTEE

The Metropolitan Horsemen's Association annual dinner dance and election of officers will be held Friday, December 3rd, at the Moose City Club, 1428 Alice Street in Oakland. It is informal with cocktails from 6 to 7 P.M., dinner at 7 and dancing until 1 A.M. Music will be by Rod McCauley's fine orchestra.

Our old members who have attended these dinner dances in past years know what enjoyable evenings they have proven to be and will need no urging to attend. To our new members we can only say that you will not want to miss this opportunity to become better acquainted with the other horsemen in our area. Again, we wish to remind all that non-member friends may be invited.

Tickets may be purchased from ticket committees of the following organizations:

Aahmes Shrine Rangers, Bill Ludolph; Piedmont Stables, Jim Black; Pinto Ranch, Harold Cummins; Miss Graham's Stables, Lloyd Donaldson; Wildwood Stables, Ollie Curry; Western Stables, Donald Pace; The Roundup, Louis Larson; Big Bear Stables, Mrs. Althea Dorsey; The Green Barn, Jean Finney; Boots 'n Jeans, Paul Brewer; Don & Ann's, Chris Hansen; Leona Riders, Corrine Smith; Redwood Heights Market, Mrs. G. W. Riis; Lari-ettes, Elsa Himmelman; Neves Stables, Richard Neves; Cressmount, Mary Lou Hutton; Castro Valley Horsemen's Association, Jack Richards.

Arlington Heights Riding Academy, Tiny Capriola; Alameda County Sheriff's Posse, Art Palmer; Rancho Benito, Art Palmer; Buckaroos of Hayward, Marion Pedlin; So. Alameda Horsemen's Association, Tom Mix; The Wagonwheel, Bruce Orcutt; The Oakland Stables, Bob Lorimer, and representing private stables, Mrs. Geo. Walling; Lou Helm's Stable, Lou Helm.

Obtain your tickets from any of the above and keep this date open for an enjoyable evening with kindred spirits. We will be looking for you.

General Ticket Chairman
Lucille Simons

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MEMBERSHIP AWARDS FEATURE OF FORUM

Highlighting the Open Forum, held September 30, was presentation of membership awards which went to winners in the recent One-for-One membership drive.

Mrs. Elsa Himmelman was recipient of a Peruvian inlaid bracelet for having obtained the most members, with 52 to her credit, while the prize for the man having secured the most new members, a cigaret box, went to Ray Theobold, with 29. Runners-up were Lucille Simons, with 21, and Tom Mix, 16. Juniors tying for first place in the new membership drive were Sheila Derieg and Beverly Cron, both having signed up eight. Prizes were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Ted Dryer.

Honorable Mention

Receiving honorable mention were Karen Anderson, Virginia Brown, Lefty Bowers, Irma Fay Brown, Deanne Burton, Heber Brown, Jean Evans, Mary Gale, Sandra Logue, Elsie Mesquita, Don Marquis, Martin Murray, Mae Murray, Richard Neves, Bill Patten, Blanche Paul, Jack Richards, Mabel Smith and Dorothea Wolbold.

One-For-One club members include:

Jane Lake, Betty LaBoyteaux, Mary Richards, Sidney Chown, Elsa Himmelman, Henry Matthews, Ray Theobold, Joey Cosca, Beryl Johnston, Nina Stern, Dorothea Wolbold, Joe West, Erna Van Denberg, Bob Van Denberg, Tom Mix.

Willis Nuttall, Mabel Smith, Phebe Brown, Mary Gale, Jacqueline Pickler, Susan Greenfield, Judy White, Harry Chandler, Carolyn Krickau, Nancy Davenport, Ollie Curry, Mrs. Warren Susan, Karen Anderson, Fred Anderson, Pat Brandes, Virginia Brown, Phebe Brown, Lefty Bowers, Irma Fay Brown, Don Bjornson, Deanne Burton, Heber Brown, Arch Brown, Beverly Cron, Harry Chandler, Sidney Chown, Nancy Davenport, Peggy Day, Ollie Curry.

Other Members

Arthur Denton, Sheila Derieg, Don Evans, Jean Evans, Elizabeth Frampton, Lee Fowler, Joyce Galeno, Miss Graham, Jean Guilford, Susan Greenfield, Elsa Himmelman, Beryl Johnstone, Fred Jones, Jane Lake, Bob Larimer, Mrs. Langfield, Sandra Logue, Henry Matthews, Don Marquis, Ed Moose, Elsie Mesquita, Tom Mix, Martin Murray, Mae Murray, Richard Neves, William Nathan, Willis Nuttall, Jacquelynne Pickler, Bill Patten, Blanche Paul, Art Palmer, Windy Smith.

Leila Ray, Mary Richards, Jack Richards, Howard Robinson, Roundup, Bill Senecal, Nina Stern, Rose Springer, Mabel Smith, Lucille Simons, Don Schwimley, Inez Thompson, Cal Tisher, Judy White, Joe West, Dorothea Wolbold.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO BE NAMED AT ANNUAL MEETING

A new board of directors, to serve during the coming year, will be named at the annual meeting, to be held in conjunction with the dinner-dance, on December 3.

Meeting to draft the slate of proposed officers was a committee named by the president, Ted Dreyer. Following a custom prevalent in many organizations, the nominating committee included three former presidents of the association, and two members nominated and elected at the September Open Forum. The group included Fred E. Anderson, chairman, Frank Colburn and Don Marquis, former presidents, Mrs. George Walling and Martin Murray.

Following a precedent set several years ago, members of the board of directors serve two years, with the retiring president automatically named to the board for the year following his term of office.

In accordance with tradition, members of the board having served two years and retiring with the close of this year's business are Mrs. Blanche Paul, Chris Hansen, and Don Marquis, junior past president, while Roy Fefley and John Corvi, directors during the past year, declined to serve again due to business matters engaging too much of their time.

Named as the candidates, to be elected after consideration by the members are Ted Dreyer, retiring president; James A. Myers, Heber J. Brown, Willis Pray, Charles Logue, A. B. Graham, Irvin Hansen, Don Schwimley, Art Palmer, all incumbents, and Mrs. George Walling, Edward Carey, Don Phelps, Si Simons and Harold Cummins.

Members of the association will have an opportunity to make nominations from the floor prior to the election. During a special meeting of the board, held later in the evening, the new president will be announced for the coming year.

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TYPES OF HORSES

(Editor's Note: From time to time, as space permits, we hope to reprint information concerning types of horses, as gleaned from an article by Dell Owens, appearing in a recent issue of the Tri-County Horseman.)

THE ARABIAN HORSE

The early history of the Arabian horse is shrouded in the veil of antiquity. For many centuries horses have been raised on the Arabian desert, and long ago their fame spread into Asia and Europe, thence throughout the world.

Most of the evidence points to their having come originally from the Libyan tribes of northern Africa, and that by long and careful breeding the superior type of Arabian horses has been maintained for more than 3,500 years.

There is a pretty tradition about the origin of the five leading families of Arabians, that is found in some of the Old Mohammedan legends. Mohammed, so the story runs, anxious to secure mounts that would stand up under the rigors of his campaigns, kept a hundred mares penned up in sight of a sparkling stream, but without water, for four days.

Finally released, the frantic animals dashed for the stream. Just as they were within a few yards of it, Mohammed caused his bugler to sound the call to halt. Five obeyed — but the others continued their mad dash for the water. These five, at the first notes of the bugle, aligned themselves in perfect formation—thus proving their blood. And they were known ever after as the "Prophet's Mares" — and, bred to the best Arab stallions, are said to have been the progenitors of the five leading families of the breed.

The pure, desert-bred Arabian, has always been noted for courage, intelligence and endurance. Accustomed to subsisting on scant water and forage, subjected to the burning heat of the desert, he is capable, nevertheless, of carrying heavy loads for great distance. Powerful and swift, raised almost as a member of the family by the desert tribes, he is invariably gentle, affectionate and tractable.



THROUGH THE OPEN GATE

THE GATEWAY TO SAFER RIDING

Numerous complaints about the unsafe condition of gates intercepted on the Leona Hills trails ways and requests for their repair culminated in my being designated chairman of the gate division of the M.H.A. trails committee. Since then, I have tried to accumulate from proven sources, designs suitable for equestrian gates and have contracted property owners to obtain their attitude and wishes regarding gates and the public use of their land.

As for the designs, blue prints and sketches have come from Eastern trails associations, from the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and from the Agricultural Extension Service, University of California. Some of these correctly installed would constitute a valuable and worthwhile investment for the M.H.A.

The property owner is bestowing a rare privilege to the M.H.A. and its members by allowing riders to pass through their domain. As this privilege is revocable at any time it is the sacred duty of the members of the association to do all they can to protect this right by retaining adequate gates that can easily be manipulated; that have some automatic device for closing which the stock is unable to open; and that constitute safe construction for horse and rider.

Years ago the M.H.A. was organized primarily as a medium for acquiring, retaining trailways. The meagre allowance of \$300.00 designated for local trails this year rather indicates that the most vital function of any riding organization, establishment of safe riding conditions, is not granted sufficient support. With a membership of some

700 it would seem a more just allotment of funds had the above amount been doubled. Riders, especially juniors, join the association to help make possible improved and safe riding conditions. That is the receipted insurance they want on dues paid. There is no better assurance of continued membership than evidence on the part of the association of a serious endeavor to eliminate obvious hazards on local trails and to sponsor a systematic and thoughtful trail program.

Cornelia Cress

(Editor's Note—The above project precluded a survey of gates involved. This was included in the communication from the writer, and has been turned over to the board of directors and in turn, will be presented to the trails committee for consideration.)

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With The Boots and Jeans

Wanna buy a duck? Highlighting the Boots and Jeans September social held at Sequoia Bowl, was the presentation of a live duck, named Platterspuss, to Bill Char-ette, as a prize in a dance contest. Bill, who was in a quandary as to what to do with it, promptly gave him, or her, to his sister and her husband, Marguerite and Frank Dinola, who are visiting here from Rhode Island. Platterpuss will soon be crated and take an air trip via United Air Lines to the East Coast, as a souvenir of California.

The riding group presented a square dance on horseback for the personnel of the aircraft carrier Boxer, on September 19 in the Redwood Regional Park. Every Thursday night finds the group at Miss Graham's Ring practicing in preparation for the Blue Ribbon Show.

Leroy Lampton recently purchased a half Thoroughbred chestnut gelding, Rocky. Barbara Brown is the proud possessor of Hornet, a chestnut mare. Dutch Cummings bought Tim Ferdeyn, a half standardbred and half Arabian horse from Ollie Curry. Tim Ferdeyn will replace her palomino mare, Blondie, who is expecting early next spring.

At The Oakland

The Oakland group enjoyed a treasure hunt Sunday, September 25. Jimmy Ormand and Bob Lorimer planned the excursion for about 25 people. Willie Nuttall won the prize, a beautiful riding crop. A steak feast in the canyon concluded the day.

A new boarder at the Oakland is Jean, the beautiful registered saddlebred mare belonging to Nancy Swaner.

Mrs. Osborne won a third ribbon, at the Rancho San Pablo Fiesta with her good saddlebred horse, Drum Major. They also won third at the show sponsored by the Sheriff's Posse of Marin County. The Oakland juniors are forming a drill team, which in the near future, will also become a club. Mr. and Mrs. Buck Wilkinson, are the new owners of that well known jumper, Irish Lad.

Friends of Bobby DeVelbiss who was injured in an automobile accident will be pleased to know that she now needs only a cane and is able to drive her new Oldsmobile. Doc Sheridan has been showing Bobby's walking horse, Bud's Ace, and has won with him in the Stockton and Sacramento shows. Bobby will be riding again sometime around the new year.

With The Lari-ettes

John and Ashley Corvi have moved into their new home, in Lafayette, and hope to have a stable for their two horses in the near future. The Corvis and Weisgerbers have recently returned from a vacation trip through the midwestern states which included a visit to the famous Van Vleit Arabian farm in Colorado.

George O'Brien visited his mother in Detroit, Mich., recently and took her to see Niagara Falls. Margaret O'Brien met them in Arizona on their return and the group visited Grand Canyon and Los Vegas.

At the Sonora horse show Joan Munson took first in the light weight trail class and third in the open trail class; Ruby Welch, second in pinto breeding and open trail class; Margaret Rukavina, first in open trail class; Pat Rukavina, first in the junior trail class; Margaret and Pat, first in family group class; Johnnie Munson, first in light weight class; Margaret Rukavina, second in light weight class; Joan Munson, second and Margaret Rukavina, third, in the Ladies' trail class.

Carmel Himmelman took second in the trail class at the Fairfax horse show. Winners at the Richmond centennial horse show included Geneva Menicucci's filly, Snap Shot, second in the quarter horse breeding class; Golden Bomber, first in quarter horse stallion class and "Mr. Five By Five", third. Ruby Welch took third in the pleasure class and Carmel Himmelman first in the pleasure class.

Pat Rukavina captured third in the junior trail class at the San Pablo fiesta show and Ruby Welch, first in the trail class at the San Jose horse show.

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Private Stables

There has been considerable activity at the B Bar H Stables of late, as over and under and under went Meredith Burgess. Result? One broken foot at the B Bar H Ranch.

Meredith was training Bonanza for the coming shows. Small figure eights, were the order of the day. Bonanza was behaving in a sluggish manner, so Meredith gave her an over and under with the romel. Bonanza responded a little too quickly, with the result that her feet slipped out from under her and down she went. Meredith's right leg or rather foot was caught under her. Which resulted in Meredith having one broken toe; one dislocated toe, torn ligaments, and worst of all — no riding for two weeks.

Barton Heller won fourth in a horsemanship class at San Jose. Meredith Burgess won third in the Ladies' stock horse class on Rainbow.

At the San Pablo show, Harlene Heller won fourth in the children's mounts on Rainbow and fourth in the Junior trail class. His brother Barton won second in the Junior trail class on Bonanza. Both Rainbow and Bonanza qualified for the Blue Ribbon show at Santa Rosa.

The reporter for Red Gates reports having been too busy vacationing and going to shows to send copy to the Trail Blazer for the past few months, but says she has now settled down to normal life and will try to bring the Blazer the goings-on of the folk and horses there.

During July, August and September, Idiot's Delight, Cover Girl, and O'Malley were entered in the following shows: Turlock, Napa, Ukiah, Concord, Plymouth, Anderson, Lodi and Watsonville, where they won many ribbons and prizes in hunters, jumpers, family classes and breeding classes.

Idiot's Delight and Cover Girl were sent to Fresno, taking part in the four classes offered for hunters, going on to the Blue Ribbon show. This was the last show for Idiot's Delight for the season, but Cover Girl will

go to Walnut Creek to live with the Logues, until the Cow Palace show.

At The Helm's Stable

The Lew Helm's Stable, formerly Don Evans, is now well known, and is getting new boarders most every day. Lew is always willing to help his boarders whenever they need a little assistance.

Among the new boarders are a colt Kandy, owned by the Noel Hayden's, Yakima owned by George Seifert, and Gypsy belonging to Mr. Spears.

Virginia Chandler had her horse Hi Ball, with her on her vacation and is now back at the stable. Mrs. Conner sold her good mare Twink, then changed her mind and bought her back again. So Twink and Mrs. Conner are both very happy these days. The Moore twins, Janet and Joyce, are seen most every day, riding in the ring after school. George Wagner, and Roaring Timber are back on the trails again after George's vacation.

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Cressmount News

First Riders' Rally of the season was held at Cressmount Sunday, October 10, planned as a combination of gymkhana and serious events.

Getting underway at 10 a.m. and lasting throughout the afternoon, the program featured a luncheon served on the grounds at the noon hour. Judges were members of the various groups with R. C. Van Den Berg serving as announcer; Winifred Johnson and Mrs. Betty La Boyreau, ring clerks; Juanita Gray, ring clerk; Mary Gale, number clerk and music. Ring decorations were in charge of the Subalterns, with the Shongehon Riders serving as paddock crew; the Pegasus Patrol in charge of programs; Mrs. Ethel Johnson, tickets, and Willis Nuttall the public address. The show was directed by Miss Cress and Mary Lou Hutton.

Each group had teams for the events and accumulated points awarded during the day. Upson Downs won the first place with 28 points. Bit & Spur, second with 25; Shongehon, 22; Subalterns, 18. The Bridoons finished in fifth place and the Pegasus Patrol, in sixth.

Among the awards were Don Schumacher, on Noah, who took first in the Seat and Hands Over; Wilda Rosendahl, on Duffle Bag, second; Among jumpers, for riders 13 to 17, Vandra Rosendahl captured first, on Killarney, with Peggy Day, on Indian, second. Winners in the pleasure horse class, shown by the Subalterns, were Wilda Rosendahl, first on Co-Ed Amber, and Karen Anderson, second on Trinity Tim.

The picnic ride, with all groups competing brought forth laughs from the audience and riders alike. This was won by the Shongehon team headed by Helen Shafer on Pacific Flight, with second place to the Subalterns, with Nancy James up on El Toro. Snatch, a contest between the Bit & Spurs and the Remounts, was won by Robin Norton, on Chocolate Soldier, of the Bit & Spur, second place going to Barbara Black, on Adobe.

In equitation, open to the Pegasus Patrol, winners were Wilda Rosendahl, on Flying Disc, and Linda Lorimer, on Killarney. Pony Expression, a relay race with all groups competing, was won in order by Shongehon, Upson Downs, Pegasus Patrol and Subalterns. Road hacks, open to Shongehon, went to (1) Adobe, with Pat Brandes up; (2) Duffle Bag, ridden by Casey Elliott; (3) Pacific Flight, with Helen Shafer, and Co-Ed Amber, with Janet Moore. Winners in the teams of working hunters over the Upson Downs course went to (1) Co-Ed Amber, with Lorraine Harris up; Killarney, Ann Conwell and Adobe, Dede Brandes, while runners-up were Duffle Bag, Pat Brandes; Ronair II, Mary Lou Hutton and Peter Patch, Win Johnson.

Winners in a relay off to the show, were (1) Kyack, Upson Downs team; (2) Chocolate Soldier, Bridoons; (3) Peter Patch, Subalterns, and (4) Indian, Bit & Spur.

In the class for pleasure horses, pairs were won by Peter Patch and Burma Road, ridden by Win Johnson and Sylvia King, with Rum Punch and Irish Bank, with Mary Lou Hutton and Lorraine Lacerda up, in second place. Other winners included Barbara Black and Evelyn, of the Bit & Spur, Zoie Desloge and Charlotte Baldwin, Pat Gorie and Barbara Bechtel and George Rausch and Lorraine Lacerda, all winners in the musical kegs, double bareback.

Note: The rain held off until 10 p.m. the night of the show!

The Bridoons

September 24th the Bridoons held a meeting at the Berkeley home of one of the members, Dorothea Wolbold. Refreshments were served at the end of a long business session, chairs and tables were pushed back, and the available male members were drafted for dancing. However, the meeting was called primarily for the purpose of discussing in detail the Club's plans for the Fall Season. Tentative arrangements were made for two rides scheduled for the last of October and the early part of November—one to take place in Marin County, to be followed by a barbeque, and the other in Golden Gate Park, after which the members will meet for breakfast at the home of Peace Alvarez in San Francisco.

The most important matter under fire was that of setting a definite date for the Bridoons Gymkana, which took place on Tuesday night, October 26th, at Cressmount. The Gymkana was held in the outdoor ring. Freida Renner, president of the Bridoons, asked the members to meet at her home on Friday night, October fifteenth, for a social gathering as well as to go over their Gymkana program. This was the first official event to be held since the Club's inauguration this summer.

The club met at Cressmount on Sunday morning, October 3rd for a 2-hour ride in the hills. Miss Cress and Juanita Gray led the group over an interesting up and down hill course. On returning to the stables, the members drove to the Leona Riders' ring site where brunch was cooked over the Leona's outdoor grill. Archie Brown, a Leona member, stopped in to meet the Bridoons and see how the barbeque was coming along. We were all sorry that he couldn't find room for one or two of Rose Kraft's delicious cinnamon buns and a cup of coffee. Many of the Bridoons claim they'd rather ride than eat, but exception was taken to that statement after tasting Rose's cooking. Everyone took time out from eating long enough to give her three rousing cheers in appreciation for all the hard work she obviously went to in preparing the menu and getting the breakfast together. During the meal, Egon Ferrell and Hale Prebble turned their energies toward taking candid pictures, even to climbing trees for just the right shot.

The ride, the meal, and even the weather turned out to be all we had anticipated.

SHONGEHON

Election of officers marked the first meeting of the Shongehon Riding club, held at the home of Miss Cress. Named to serve were Pat Brandes, president; Helen Shafer, secretary; Priscilla Meyers, treasurer, and Dede Brandes, publicity chairman.

Group members include Janet and Joyce Moore, Vandra Rosendahl, Dede Brandes, Pat Brandes, Joyce Williams, Sheila Derieg, Marion Clements, Helen Shafer, Priscilla Meyers, Beverly Cron, Charlotte Lochner, Wilda Rosendahl and Lois Ann Blemer.

Listed on the year's calendar of events are a treasure hunt, in February; the annual Christmas party; the Shongehon Junior show, exchange rides with the Sacramento Riding club and the St. Francis Riding club, trail rides, and all day picnic rides.

New members were initiated with the traditional rites on September 24, the group sleeping in the umbrella ring, followed by breakfast in the court yard.

Lois Ann Blemer, new member of the club, has a flashy chestnut thoroughbred gelding, Charlan, stabled at Cressmount. Charlan was brought off the race track and has been doing nicely in the classes and jumping.

Tutti-Fruitti

Hiram and his dog were sitting on the wagon while Dobbin was pulling the wagon slowly along.

The dog suddenly said, "Hey, git up, ya lazy good-fer-nuthin critter afore I whip ye."

Dobbin turned around and said plaintively: "How would you like to pull this thing in a broiling July sun."

"I wouldn't at all," said the dog.

Then the dog suddenly looked puzzled, turned to Hiram and said "Ya know, that's the first time I ever heard a hoss talk."

Juniors at Cressmount

Thursday, September 9 some of the junior riders of Cressmount had a jolly picnic ride. They started at 10:30 a.m. with only one member missing. At the first fast gallop it looked as though a few more juniors would be missing, but they all stayed on. The riders stopped here and there to open gates and rest the horses. They had a nice lunch at noon, but before they were back at the stable, everything that even looked like water made them thirsty. When the ride was over the juniors washed and walked the horses until they were cool, then put them away. They are looking forward to more picnic rides this fall.

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(Continued from Page 3)

involve the public in any way will be handled. Having all of these things in mind, and, desirous of formulating the necessary machinery for smooth operation in the coming year, your committee has reached the following conclusion:

That, in order to maintain the present standards of the organization and to build for the future progress of the association, it will be absolutely necessary to provide \$3,000 for operating expenses for the coming year. With the dues at \$3.00 per adult member it will be necessary to increase the membership. This can be done only by each member exerting all of his energies towards interesting new members in the association. In the recent One-For-One drive, while many of the members worked hard to bring in new members, others fell far short of the goal.

While the committee strongly considered an increase in dues, it was thought advisable, at this time, to pass the burden of increasing our financial status to each member of the organization by selling him the idea of obtaining new memberships in lieu of a raise in membership dues. It is an impossibility to conduct an organization such as the Metropolitan Horsemen's association without sufficient funds for efficient operation.

Minimum Cost

Briefly a member is paying what amounts to 25 cents a month, and in return is getting each and every month a copy of the Trail Blazer, which is in itself worth 25 cents a copy; is receiving the monthly bulletin of the California State Horsemen's association and best of all, is enjoying the advantages of belonging to a well-organized horsemen's association. One need only to stop and reflect a moment to appreciate these advantages. All members of the association who love horses, who own them and keep them, particularly in private stables, should realize that it would take only minor legislation to impair their security. An organization of sufficient members has the bargaining power, and the necessary influence in the community, to keep such a thing from happening. Can any of you horse lovers say that this is too great a price to pay for this security?

The time is rapidly approaching, if not already here, when devious inroads will be attempted on the continued enjoyment by horse people, of horse activities, and unless you have an organization firmly on its feet, properly equipped, politically and financially, to cope with the situation there can come a sad awakening.

This is not mere talk. It is meant to point out to each and every one of you how necessary it is to have a live, energetic, capable and well-functioning organization working for your interests.

This past year \$2,023.50 was raised by the sale of memberships. This sum was allotted to trails upkeep, office expense, for print-

ing and mailing various announcements and programs, the salary of the secretary, and the annual dues for each and every member of the association in the California State Horsemen's association. Obviously space does not permit a detailed breakdown of the various expenditures, but anyone interested can obtain this from the secretary.

At the present time we find we have the imposing sum of \$229.91 on hand. We still have two or three months to run in order to carry out this year's program. We will be lucky to break even, and not wind up with a deficit.

Now Reaping Rewards

This year brought to the horsemen the first real reward from several years of striving for proper public relations by officers and members of the organization. This was the start of the horsemen's arena, in Joaquin Miller park, where we held our horse show. True, it was held under handicaps, but nevertheless it proved a substantial start. Recently the Oakland city council voted an appropriation of \$25,000 for the purchase of bleachers for the arena and Woodminster amphitheater, enough to seat 3,500 people. This project has barely gotten underway. Parking areas and streets have been laid out and will be developed next year in time for the horse show. Next will come fencing and the building of barns, and in the not too distant future, a clubhouse, we hope.

This organization can only be as good as the support it receives from its members. Can any horseman think of a better way of spending, or rather investing, 25 cents of his income each month? Do you know any place else where you can buy so much for so little? Remember, **this is your horse organization. It needs you! You need it!**

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Casey and the boys went out to the ball grounds one day and was amazed to see a horse standing on the mound. A man was nearby and Casey called out "Get that horse off the field."

"Now calm down a minute," said the stranger. "This horse can play baseball."

"You must be crazy," retorted Casey. "There's no such thing as a horse that can play baseball."

"Give him a try-out," said the man. "Put him in the field and see what he can do."

"O.K." said Casey.

The horse never missed a ball.

"Can he play bases?", queried the astonished Casey.

"Can he play bases?" said the stranger. "Try him and see."

They did and the horse performed equally as well. They tried him at short stop and he was nothing short of miraculous.

"Can he pitch?" next asked Casey.

"Can he pitch? Just watch him," answered the stranger. The horse fanned one after another.

"That's pretty good," admitted Casey. "I wish he could bat."

"He can," was the answer. It was the day of the big game, with two down and the bases full. Casey, willing by this time to take a chance, called the horse in.

The first ball he hit went over the fence and the players raced around the bases. Casey then discovered the horse still standing at the plate.

"Run," yelled Casey.

"Heck Casey," retorted the horse. "If I could run I'd be down to Tanforan."

Didya hear about the M.H.A. member who took a day off to go to Golden Gate Fields.

"Gee," he said. "I wish I had all of the money I'm gonna lose here today."

Quite a Difference

A newly rich lady decided to spend some of her sudden wealth on a trip around the world. Returning to America she was describing her trip to friends. "And in China," she said, "I got the biggest surprise of all. They have buggies that are called rickshaws and they're pulled by horses that look just like men."

The best way to get real enjoyment out of a garden is to put on a wide straw hat, dress in thin, loose-fitting clothes, hold a little trowel in one hand, a cool drink in the other — and tell the man where to dig.



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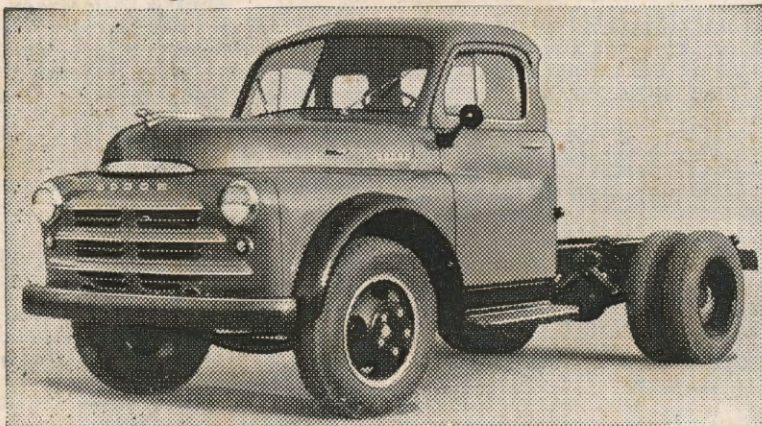
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